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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE

IN RE APPLICATION OF :  
ROBERTO LANFREDI, ET AL. : ATTN: APPLICATION DIVISION  
SERIAL NO: NEW U.S. APPLICATION :  
(BASED ON PCT/EP03/07225)  
FILED: HEREWITH :  
FOR: BEADS OF EXPANDABLE :  
VINYLAROMATIC POLYMERS :  
AND PROCESS FOR THEIR :  
PREPARATION

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS  
ALEXANDRIA, VIRGINIA 22313

SIR:

Prior to examination on the merits, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

**Amendments to the Claims** are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.

**Remarks/Arguments** begin on page 5 of this paper.